

Fact Sheet: U.S. Assistance on Avian Influenza to Indonesia



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U.S. cooperation with Indonesia on combating avian influenza (AI) has accelerated rapidly since Indonesia reported its first human cases in July 2005. The U.S. Government has committed approximately \$24 million to AI control in Indonesia since the country reported its first human case in July 2005.

- USAID has programmed approximately \$15 million in assistance for activities relating to avian influenza control include behavior change communications initiatives, programs to build capacity and implement surveillance and response to the disease in the animal population.
- The Mission's Naval Medical Research Unit (NAMRU-2) operates a human flu surveillance program in 44 Indonesian referral hospitals. NAMRU-2 also works closely with the Ministry of Health to analyze samples of suspected avian influenza human cases.
- On the diplomatic side, in October 2005, Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt led a US delegation to Indonesia to enhance bilateral cooperation on preventing an AI pandemic. The delegation included senior government officials from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institute of Health, U.S. Agency for International Development, and U.S. Department of Agriculture. In May, 2006 Ambassador John Lange, Special Representative on Avian and Pandemic Influenza, traveled to Indonesia in one of his first overseas visits after assuming his position.
- The Centers for Disease Control and the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) will open offices in Indonesia in 2007 to directly assist the Indonesian Government's efforts to control AI.
- Despite leading the world in number of human case avian influenza fatalities, Indonesia has made strides in controlling the disease through the recent completion of a national AI response plan and the establishment of a National Committee for Avian Influenza Control and Pandemic Prevention under the Coordinating Ministry for Peoples' Welfare.